Message Text

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SUBJ: COMMUNICATIONS ABOUT COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS

1. DEPT WOULD APPRECIATE HAVING EMBASSY VIEWS, AT EARLY CONVENIENCE, ON QUESTION OF POSSIBLE EXPANSION OF USE OF TELEX BY US AND SOVIET AGENCIES INVOLVED IN SPECIALIZED BILATERAL AGREEMENTS. BASED ON DEPT'S KNOW-LEDGE OF EXPERIENCE OF ONE US AGENCY, AND SCATTERED INDICATIONS OF USE OF TELEX BY OTHERS, REGULAR USE OF TELEX FACILITATES PROMPT AND RELIABLE COMMUNICATIONS. CONFIRMED DELIVERY OF TELEX MESSAGES IS GREAT IMPROVEMENT OVER FREQUENTLY UNACKNOWLEDGED COMMERCIAL CABLE AND POUCHED LETTER COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTED TO SOVIET AGENCIES. HOWEVER, TO WHAT EXTENT WOULD EXPANDED USE OF TELEX COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN US AND SOVIET EXECUTIVE AGENTS FOR AGREEMENTS COMPLICATE EMBASSY'S ROLE IN FACILITATING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VARIOUS AGREEMENTS?

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- 2. APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S VIEWS AS TO WHAT KINDS OF MESSAGES COULD GO VIA TELEX AS DISTINCT FROM OTHERS THAT MORE APPROPRIATELY SHOULD GO THROUGH DEPT AND EMBASSY. WHAT PRACTICAL GUIDELINES CAN BE ESTABLISHED TO ENSURE THAT POLICY MATTERS ARE NOT INTRODUCED INTO TELEX EXCHANGES AND THAT FIRM COMITMENTS TO PROJECT PROPOSALS OR SPECIFIC EXCHANGES ARE NOT MADE VIA TELEX WITHOUT PRIOR DEPT KNOWLEDGE AND CLEARANCE? ADDITIONAL POINTS EMBASSY MIGHT ADDRESS ARE:
- A. PROBLEMS INVOLVED IF US AGENCY SENDS TELEX DIRECTLY TO EMBASSY, REQUESTING ITS ASSISTANCE ON SUBSTANTIVE OR ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS RELATING TO IMPLEMENTATION OF AGREEMENT. CURRENT DEPT. POLICY IS THAT SUCH A PRACTICE SHOULD BE AVOIDED, EVEN IN MATTERS OF URGENCY.
- B. SHOULD EMBASSY RECEIVE (BY POUCH) COPIES OF ALL TELEX MESSAGES BETWEEN US AND SOVIET EXECUTIVE AGENCIES FOR COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS? CAN EMBASSY DEFINE KINDS OF MESSAGES IT MIGHT WISH TO RECEIVE (1) VIA EMBASSY TELEX OR (2) VIA POUCH?
- 3. WHAT WOULD BE LIKELY REACTION BY SOVIET AGENCIES IF EFFORTS MADE TO EXPAND TELEX USE IN NEAR FUTURE?

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